

SOUTH CAROLINA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

STANDING HEARING OFFICER DIRECTIVE

DOCKET NO. 2014-346-WS ORDER NO. 2018-46-H

APRIL 10, 2018

Standing Hearing Officer: David Butler

DOCKET DESCRIPTION:

Application of Daufuskie Island Utility Company, Incorporated for Approval of an Increase for Water and Sewer Rates, Terms and Conditions

MATTER UNDER CONSIDERATION:

Motion Requesting that Materials Be Granted Confidential Treatment

STANDING HEARING OFFICER'S ACTION:

Counsel for the South Carolina Office of Regulatory Staff ("ORS") moves that the Commission grant confidential treatment to its Motion Exhibit 1. On April 2, 2018, ORS received an e-mail from a former Daufuskie Island Utility Company ("DIUC") customer regarding the customer's ability to receive a refund promised to it. Counsel states that this e-mail contains certain personal information regarding the customer and the DIUC utility representative. Accordingly, ORS believes that this Motion Exhibit 1 should be given confidential treatment. S.C. Code Ann. Section 30-4-40 (2) (2017) exempts from disclosure information of a personal nature where the public disclosure thereof would constitute unreasonable invasion of personal privacy.

Although this Standing Hearing Officer believes that the application of this statute to the personal information of the DIUC utility representative may be questionable, the application to the personal information of the customer clearly falls under the cited statute. However, to resolve all doubts, I will grant confidentiality to the personal information regarding both the customer representative and the customer, given the controversial nature of the underlying dispute over refunds. Accordingly, the e-mails containing this information are hereby declared confidential under the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act provision cited above.